

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for fecal coliform bacteria in sixteen shellfish propagation waters located in Gloucester County, Virginia.

The impaired segments are located in VDH Growing Area 42 containing the North River, Green mansion Creek, Blackwater Creek, Elmington Creek and Back Creek, VDH Growing Area 43 containing the Ware River and Fox Mill Run, Growing Area 44 including the Severn River and several tributaries, Growing Area 45 including Monday Creek and Brown's Bay, and Growing Area 46, Sarah Creek and the Perrin River. All waters are tributaries to Mobjack Bay and Chesapeake Bay.

The affected water body segments are identified in Virginia's 1998 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's water quality standard for fecal coliform bacteria in shellfish waters. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia, require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report.

This is the first public meeting, to provide information and solicit participation of citizens and local government in the development of the fecal coliform TMDL's to be held on **July 12, 2005** from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Page Middle School, 5628 George Washington Memorial Highway, Gloucester, Virginia 23061. Directions can be obtained by calling Chester Bigelow at (804) 698-4554 or Amanda Wallace at (804) 693-5730.

The public comment period will begin on July 13, 2005, and end on August 11, 2005. Questions or information requests should be addressed to Chester Bigelow and should include the name, address, and

telephone number of the person submitting the comments. Requests should be sent to Chester Bigelow, Department of Environmental Quality, 629 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, 23240, telephone (804) 698-4554, Fax (804) 698-4116, or e-mail ccbigelow@deq.virginia.gov.